

2Prospectors Summary Report on the famous Blue Gravel Mine (“Blue Gravel” placer mining claim)

Blue Gravel Claim: The Blue Gravel claim is a 60 acre unpatented placer mining claim located upon BLM public domain in Siskiyou County, California. It is 15 miles north of Yreka, California and a few miles away from the small crossroads town of Hornbrook. The Hornbrook off ramp of Interstate 5 allows access to the claim by way of 2 miles of good gravel road. From the Hornbrook off ramp, the Oregon border is 7 miles further north on I-5.

The Blue Gravel claim is in the “Cottonwood” Mining district and largely covers what was historically known as the “Blue Gravel Mine”. Within the Claim is a large area of old shallow surface placers as well as a large area of the auriferous Hornbrook Conglomerate. Here, the surface exposures of the conglomerate were historically mined by hydraulic and ground sluicing methods, followed by drift mining. A few old drift mines (declines which are now largely closed / filled) accessed the bedrock contact with the gravels but huge tonnages of gold bearing gravel remain in place.

While the claim is very near the Klamath River, it is essentially a dry claim. A local rancher used to lease the graze from BLM and dozed a dam on a spring fed gully located along the old hydraulic face, creating a very small pond, so some water is present. Claim can be accessed year round except, maybe, for a few short periods in the winter if heavy snow occurs. Area is borderline “high desert” and snow doesn’t get deep or last long.

The Blue Gravel Mine was famous for its rich gravels and coarse gold, which fact was noted by the State Mineralogist all the way back in 1893. The Blue Gravel Mine has been written about / described in at least four separate State Mineralogist Reports.

In the 1980’s and 90’s, Kerr McGee and others collected and processed a number of 2 ton bulk samples of the Hornbrook Conglomerate along a 4 to 5 mile length. Two of these samples were obtained from within the boundary of the Blue Gravel placer claim and are reported on within a summary report which can be accessed within the 2Prospectors website. Owners have a comprehensive report of the processing of these samples which analyzes the physical (rock) characteristics of the conglomerate and the gold bearing fractions thereof (invaluable for setting up a processing plant for conglomerate ore). A copy of this report will be included in a sale of the claim.

The current “Blue Gravel” placer mining claim was located on October 5th, 2005 and has been properly maintained with Siskiyou County and the Bureau of Land Management by the owners. Owners located and held the claims on the basis of the large amount of gold contained within the unmined “Auriferous Conglomerate” and largely ignored the near surface potential of the shallow historically placered areas of the Claim. However trespassing sneaks did not ignore this and substantial amounts of unauthorized metal detecting has occurred and considerable amounts of nugget gold has reportedly been found (read as stolen).

Evidence of this unauthorized work has recently prompted claim owners to sample the metal detecting tailings, using a dry washer, and respectable amounts of coarse gold were recovered. Over time, much gold has been removed from the Blue Gravel Mine area but it is obvious that much more remains to be recovered. The claim offers excellent opportunities for dry washing and metal detecting while maintaining the underlying potential of commercial possibilities in the large amount of gold bearing “Blue Lead” gravels present.

Owners are selling the claim because they don’t have the time to devote the proper attention to exploiting the gold values present. Selling price is \$14,500.